

I. (12 points) Read the texts below and decide which variant (A, B, C or D) best fits each space.

A number of prehistoric paintings still survive on the walls of caves in Spain and southern France. They show with amazing accuracy a wide (1) _____ of animals which the cave dwellers chased, such as bison and deer, and are (2) _____ remarkable for their life and power. It is very (3) _____ that the pictures were connected with hunting. There is a very famous example in Lascaux, in which we can just (4) _____ out a man among some animals. There are also a (5) _____ of dark dots in the painting. Though the meaning of the picture is not clear, it does, (6) _____, show that the cave dwellers were an artistic people in many (7) _____.

More than 5000 years (8) _____, the Egyptians began painting on the walls of their tombs everything that went on in their (9) _____ lives. They believed that the figures of people, animals and everyday facts would enter the afterlife with the dead person.

The most artistic people of any age, (10) _____ perhaps the Chinese, were the Greeks. We have many (11) _____ of Greek sculptures, but apart from a few fragments, Greek wall paintings have not survived, (12) _____ we can only imagine what they were like.

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|-----------------|-------------|--------------|------------|
| 1. A difference | B group | C flock | D variety |
| 2. A quite | B too | C such | D enough |
| 3. A true | B definite | C likely | D possibly |
| 4. A see | B watch | C make | D look |
| 5. A several | B few | C collection | D number |
| 6. A however | B although | C too | D and |
| 7. A means | B points | C ways | D views |
| 8. A since | B following | C previous | D ago |
| 9. A common | B daily | C private | D usual |
| 10. A apart | B except | C not | D besides |
| 11. A ruins | B objects | C ideas | D examples |
| 12. A because | B since | C so | D but |

II. (15 points) Fill the gaps in the text below with ONE suitable word.

Dictionaries are (1) _____ the most important tools of self-education. (2) _____ Samuel Johnson wrote his influential English dictionary in the eighteenth century, the work kept (3) _____ busy for several years. At the end of that period, he (4) _____ written the meanings of over forty thousand words. Most modern dictionaries require a (5) _____ deal less time and effort to write because writers often use earlier dictionaries (6) _____ a source of reference.

Nowadays, most dictionaries are (7) _____ together by teams of writers, or lexicographers. Sometimes they need to work together in meetings; at other times they work independently of (8) _____ other, on different parts of the dictionary.

(9) _____ one time, the starting point for deciding on which words to include used to be the lexicographer's own knowledge. These days, teams (10) _____ use of a large collection of examples of (11) _____ only writing but also everyday speech, which is known as a *corpus*. Teams also refer (12) _____ books and articles about language as (13) _____ as asking experts in particular subjects about the more specialized words. Finally, ordinary people are asked to say what they think about the (14) _____ words are defined and (15) _____ they find the examples provided helpful or not.

III. (20 points) Rephrase the following sentences so that the meaning stays the same and using the word in capitals. You must not change the word in capitals.

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|--|------------|
| 1. He was fired five months ago.
He _____ for five months. | UNEMPLOYED |
| 2. I really wish I had gone to university.
I deeply _____ to university. | REGRET |
| 3. It seems that Paul isn't to be trusted, after all.
Paul _____ trustworthy after all. | APPEARS |
| 4. 'You are lying to me!', Sarah said to Lucy
Sarah _____ to her. | ACCUSED |
| 5. I am sure we are not doing it the right way.
This _____ way we're supposed to do it. | BE |

6. Basically, our happiness depends on our ability to communicate. **HAPPIER**
.The _____ we are.
7. I wish I had completed my studies at university. **NOT**
I now regret _____ my studies at university.
8. But for the intervention of his bodyguards, the President might have been hurt. **INTERVENED**
If _____, the President might have been hurt.
9. Mary didn't like the Chinese food I offered her, and Paul didn't either. **LIKED**
Neither Mary _____ the Chinese food I offered.
10. 'I have sent you a letter as promised', she said. **SENT**
She said _____ him a letter as promised.

IV. READING COMPREHENSION

Read the following text and complete the tasks:

Humans know more about the surface of the moon than the bottom of the sea. But there is no life on the moon. The sea is full of life, and scientists are redefining the meaning of life by the strange and fascinating life forms they find at the sea bottom. It is very cold down at the bottom and there is no sunlight, only a greenish-yellow color light produced by a cell in some creatures' body. (1) _____ If a deep-sea fish or creature from the bottom of the ocean is brought up to the surface, their organs and eyes will explode and they will die. Only soft body animals can live at those depths such as jellyfish or sea anemones.

Researches suggest that there are creatures that do not know what light means at the bottom of the sea. They don't have either eyes or ears; they can only feel. There is no day or night for them. (2) _____. It is as if a child spent its life in darkness in bed, with nothing to see or hear. How different our own life is! Sight shows us the ground beneath our feet and the heavens above us - the sun, moon, and stars, shooting stars, lightning, and the sunset. It shows us day and night. We are able to hear voices, the sound of the sea, and music. (3) _____ How fortunate we are!

(4)_____ All living things must drink, and they require a fresh supply of water often. A person can go without food for many days, but he or she cannot go for long without water. Fishes drink, and fishes that live in salt water must drink salt water. However, when we watch them in an aquarium and see them opening and closing their mouths, we must not assume that they are drinking. (5) _____ The water that they seem to be gulping gives them oxygen, which is in the water. On the other hand, when a fish drinks, it swallows water, just in the way we do.

A. Five sentences have been removed from the text. Select the appropriate sentence for each gap in the text. There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use. 10 points

- A. There are no winters, no summers, no sun, no moon, and no stars
- B. We feel, we taste, we smell.
- C. Fishes need water for its oxygen.
- D. Some fish swim to the top to catch their prey.
- E. It is known that in an aquarium fish do not drink water.
- F. Have you ever wondered whether fishes drink or not?

B. For the following questions, choose the answer (A, B, C, D) which fits according to the text. 8 points

1. Judging from the story, we can say that this story is mainly about:

- A. how changes in the seasons are perceived by the deep-sea creatures;
- B. the differences among creatures of the earth and those of the sea;
- C. the superiority of human beings over some creatures in terms of senses;
- D. how wonderful our lives were and will be.

2. We discover that the sea creatures in the story:

- A. do not hear the sound of sea as they are accustomed to it;
- B. have no sense of hearing as well as sight;
- C. have the same senses that we do;
- D. hear the sounds of the ocean.

3. A child in darkness is likened to:

- A. a perfect sleeper, for there is no sound around to hear;
- B. someone who lives where there are no seasons;
- C. an animal without the sense of touch;

D. a sea creature with no seeing or hearing ability;

4. We learn that we:

- A. cannot go for long without water;
- B. can live for a long time without food;
- C. have no need for a fresh supply of water;
- D. have no need of both food and water.

V. (10 points) Read the text below and use the words given in capitals below to form words that fit in the gaps. The words in capitals are given in the order in which you need to use them.

1 – INFORM; 2 – MAIN; 3 – IMPORTANCE; 4 – FIT; 5 – DEVELOP; 6 – CONTINUE; 7 – ABOLISH; 8 – ESTABLISH; 9 – SUGGEST; 10 – NATION;

According to Greek legend, the Olympic Games were started by Hercules, son of Zeus, in honour of his father. The first Olympic Games about which we have (1) _____ were held in 776 BC on the plain of Olympia. Games had taken place before this date but had consisted (2) _____ of chariot races. The ancient Greeks thought the Games were so (3) _____ that they measured time by the interval between them. A period of four years was referred to as an Olympiad. The Games also represented the Greek ideal of physical (4) _____ and beauty, which they considered as important as the (5) _____ of the mind. Nothing, not even war, was allowed to interfere with the Games. They were held (6) _____ every four years for more than 1000 years until their (7) _____ by the Romans in AD 394.

At the end of the nineteenth century, a Frenchman called Baron the Coubertin decided to (8) _____ the tradition. Following his (9) _____, fifteen nations met at an (10) _____ congress in 1894. Two years later, the first modern Olympic Games were held in Athens. In 2004, the Olympics returned to Greece, when Athens played host, once again, to the greatest sports event in the world.

VI. (25 points) Write a 8-10 narrative paragraph starting with the following words:

And Harry Potter stepped into the labyrinth for yet another magic adventure.

SCRIETI RASPUNSURILE PE FOAIA DE RASPUNS (ANSWER SHEET). BARATI TOATE SPATIILE NECOMPLETATE. TIMP DE LUCRU: 3 ORE. NU SE ACORDA PUNCTE DIN OFICIU.

INSPECTORATUL SCOLAR AL MUNICIPIULUI BUCURESTI
OLIMPIADA DE LIMBA ENGLEZA 2011- 2012 ETAPA PE SCOALA – CLASA A IX -A -
PUNCTAJ SI BAREM
VARIANTA 1

I. (12 puncte)

1D 2A 3C 4C 5D 6A 7C 8D 9B 10B 11D 12C

II. (15 puncte)

1. among; 2. When; 3. him; 4. had; 5. great; 6. as; 7. put; 8. each; 9. At; 10. make; 11. not; 12. to; 13. well; 14. way; 15. whether/if

III. (20 puncte)

- 1... has been unemployed.....
- 2..... regret not going/having gone
- 3.... appears not to be....
- 4.....accused Lucy of lying....
- 5.... can't/cannot/be the
- 6.... more/better we communicate/better we are at communication, the happier....
- 7.... not completing/not having completed
- 8.... his bodyguards had not intervened....
- 9.... nor Paul liked....
- 10.... .she had sent

IV. (18 puncte)

- A. 1-D 2-A 3-B 4-F 5-C**
B. 1-C 2-B 3-D 4-A

V. (10 puncte)

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. information | 6. continuously |
| 2. mainly | 7. abolition |
| 3. important | 8. reestablish |
| 4. fitness | 9. suggestion |
| 5. development | 10.international |

VI. (25 points)

NOTA: Pentru punctele II si III se accepta orice varianta posibila corecta.